

## NORTH CASCADES INSTITUTE

Connecting People, Nature & Community Through Education

January 22, 2003

The Honorable Greg Nickels Mayor, City of Seattle 600 Fourth Avenue (12th Floor) Seattle, WA 98104 Attn: Regina LaBelle

Support for the reconfirmation of Gary Zarker, Superintendent, Seattle City Light

Dear Mayor Nichels,

I am pleased to contribute this letter of support for Gary Zarker's reconfirmation as Superintendent of Seattle City Light.

I am the Executive Director of North Cascades Institute, a 16 year-old, nonprofit environmental education organization based in Sedro-Woolley, WA. The Institute's mission is to conserve and restore Northwest environments through education. Each year we work with more than 10,000 children and adults in a wide variety of youth and school programs, teacher workshops, seminars in natural and cultural history, conferences, retreats, and stewardship programs.

I have worked in close partnership with Gary Zarker and Seattle City Light for the past eight years on the creation of the North Cascades Environmental Learning Center. The Center, a joint project of City Light, the National Park Service and North Cascades Institute., will be a residential education facility located in the National Park. As one of the central elements of the 1995 federal re-licensing of the Skagit River dams, the Center and its education programs will help people of all ages learn, enjoy and understand more about our wonderful region. The Learning Center will reach more than 10,000 people each year in a wide variety of field-based and overnight programs.

Gary Zarker has been an advocate of conservation during his tenure at Seattle City Light. He has taken a strong interest in this unique partnership project and dedicated significant resources towards its successful implementation. It is important to us that he continue his leadership of Seattle City Light as we prepare for the opening of the Learning Center.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my support.

Sincerely,

Saul Weisberg Executive Director Albany Office 30 South Pearl Street – 10<sup>th</sup> floor Albany, NY 12207-3425 518 433.6719 518 433.6780(Fax) Eugene.Zeltmann@nypa.gov



Eugene W. Zeltmann President and Chief Executive Officer

January 17, 2003

The Honorable Greg Nickels Mayor, City of Seattle 600 Fifth Avenue 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Seattle, WA 98104

Attn: Regina La Belle

RECEIVED

03 JAW 22 ALID: 17

64 YOR'S OFFICE

Dear Mayor Nickels:

I'm writing on behalf of my friend and colleague, Gary Zarker, who I hope you will reconfirm as superintendent of your city's utility.

I've known Gary for a number of years as our companies are both members of the Large Public Power Council (LPPC). The LPPC provides a forum for exchange of ideas among the 24 largest public power entities in the country. The LPPC as a group also advocates policies and legislative initiatives that advance the cause of public power. Gary has played a leadership role within the group with respect to the development of policies regarding environmental issues, hydroelectric re-licensing, market power and the like. His insight and knowledge of current trends within the industry are valued by all of us.

Sincerely,

Eugene W. Zeltmann,

Eugene W. Zeltmann

President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Heidi Wills